

DEC 20 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Terry M. Fritz et al.

Examiner: Tadesse Hailu

Serial No.: 10/616,075

Group Art Unit: 2173

Filed: July 9, 2003

Docket No.: 10018793-1

Title: IMAGING SYSTEM CONTROL PANEL METHOD AND APPARATUS

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This Declaration is submitted to establish prior invention of the subject matter of the present patent application. The persons making this Declaration are the inventors, Terry M. Fritz and Dana A. Jacobsen.

Accompanying this Declaration are Exhibits A through C to establish conception of the subject matter of the present patent application in the United States prior to the earliest effective date of June 3, 2002 of the Ashey U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0231327 coupled with due diligence from a date prior to the earliest effective date of the Ashey Publication up to the filing date of the present patent application (i.e., constructive reduction to practice).

Exhibit A (4 pages) includes a copy of HP Invention Disclosure No. 10018793 submitted by the inventors Terry M. Fritz and Dana A. Jacobsen and received by the HP Legal Department prior to the earliest effective date of the Ashey Publication. This invention disclosure describes subject matter of the present patent application.

Exhibit B (1 page) includes an email dated April 15, 2002, a date prior to the earliest effective date of the Ashey Publication, from the Intellectual Property Section of the HP Legal Department to inventors Terry M. Fritz and Dana A. Jacobsen informing the inventors that the decision has been made to pursue patent protection and prepare a patent application for their invention for filing in the US Patent and Trademark Office.

Exhibit C (2 pages) includes a copy of an invoice dated February 29, 2004 from the law firm Leffert Jay & Polglaze to Hewlett-Packard Company for the preparation of the patent application based on HP Invention Disclosure No. 10018793-1 (i.e., the present patent application). From this invoice, it can be seen that acts in preparation of the patent application occurred between at least April 23, 2002, a date prior to the earliest effective date

Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

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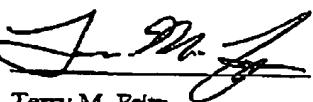
Title: IMAGING SYSTEM CONTROL PANEL METHOD AND APPARATUS

of the Ashey Publication, and July 9, 2003. Subsequently, on July 9, 2003, the patent application based on HP Invention Disclosure No. 10018793-1 (i.e., the present patent application) was filed.

From these exhibits, it can be seen that the subject matter of the present patent application was conceived in the United States prior to the earliest effective date of June 3, 2002 of the Ashey U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0231327 coupled with due diligence from a date prior to the earliest effective date of the Ashey Publication up to the filing date of the present patent application (i.e., constructive reduction to practice).

As a person signing below, I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name:

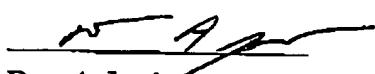


Terry M. Fritz

Date:

Dec 20, 2006

Name:



Dana A. Jacobsen

Date:

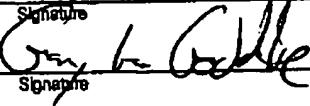
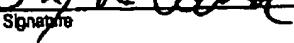
20 Dec 2006

## **EXHIBIT A**

**Write in Dark Ink on Front Side Only, Please**

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INVENTION DISCLOSURE		COMPANY CONFIDENTIAL	PAGE	OF
<b>Signature of Witness(es):</b> (Please try to obtain the signature of the person(s) to whom invention was first disclosed.) The invention was first explained to, and understood by, me (us) on this date: [ <u>1</u> ]				
Full Name <u>Gary Lee Goldbeck</u>	Signature 		Date of Signature [REDACTED]	
Full Name <u>Gary Lee Goldbeck</u>	Signature 		Date of Signature [REDACTED]	
<b>Inventor &amp; Home Address Information:</b> (If more than four inventors, include add'l. information on a copy of this form & attach to this document)				
Inventor's Full Name <u>Terry M. Fritz</u> Street <u>11662 W. Arden</u> City <u>Boise</u> State ID Zip <u>83713</u>				
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX City State Zip <u>No</u>				
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.) Citizenship USA <u>Daga</u> USA				
Inventor's Full Name <u>Dana A. Jacobsen</u> Street <u>13474 W. Bluebonnet Drive</u> City <u>Boise</u> State ID Zip <u>83713</u>				
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX City State Zip <u>No</u>				
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.) Citizenship USA <u>Daga</u> USA				
Inventor's Full Name <u></u> Street <u></u> City <u></u> State Zip <u></u>				
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX City State Zip <u></u>				
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.) Citizenship <u></u>				
Inventor's Full Name <u></u> Street <u></u> City <u></u> State Zip <u></u>				
Do you have a Residential P.O. Address? P.O. BOX City State Zip <u></u>				
Greeted as (nickname, middle name, etc.) Citizenship <u></u>				

Form 3.1a idf-IPS-Laserjet.doc, rev. 06/09/00

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**Description of Invention:** Please preserve all records of the invention and attach additional pages for the following. Each additional page should be signed and dated by the inventor(s) and witness(es).

**A. Description of the construction and operation of the Invention (include appropriate schematic, block, & timing diagrams; drawings; samples; graphs; flowcharts; computer listings; test results; etc.) SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT**

**B. Advantages of the invention over what has been done before.**

**C. Problems solved by the invention.**

**D. Prior solutions and their disadvantages (if available, attach copies of product literature, technical articles, patents, etc.).**

Write in Dark Ink on Front Side Only, Please

Date: [REDACTED]

Inventor: Terry Fritz

Summary: This invention allows a user customizable look and feel to a graphical front panel of a printer.

**A. Description:**

This invention allows the user to graphically customize a printer's front panel. There are many reasons why a user might want to customize the look and feel of a front panel. These might include:

- Increasing font size for ease of readability
- Decreasing font size for ability to display more information
- Change font for personal taste
- Add graphical border and wallpaper for personal taste
- Change menu item bullets to match a company's style

These preferences could be controlled through an host based application that has a example control panel shown on the screen where user selections give instant feedback to how the look will change. Once the desired settings are specified, the user simply sends this new configuration to the printer and the printer instantly changes its visual properties to comply with the user's new requests.

This invention requires a graphical control panel which is becoming more common with newer printer products.

**B. Advantages of the invention over what has been done before:**

This allows a configurable display to meet many different visual needs and wants of the end consumer.

**C. Problems solved by the invention:**

This invention solves the problem of a single font and font size. This also solves the problem of a boring, plain control panel.

**D. Prior solutions and their disadvantages:**

Prior printers have shipped with only the ability of a static look and feel to a printer's control panel. Given the state of user interface technology, this is several generations old.

## EXHIBIT B

Unknown

**From:** LEGAL,IP (HP-PaloAlto,exgen1)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 15, 2002 10:07 AM  
**To:** FRITZ,TERRY (HP-Boise,ex1); JACOBSEN,DANA (HP-Boise,unixgw1)  
**Subject:** Invention Disclosure 10018793



10018793.PDF

\*\*\* Please do NOT reply to this message as the "From" mailbox is NOT monitored. \*\*\*

Thank you once again for submitting your invention disclosure entitled "Control Panel Skins" to the Legal Department's Intellectual Property section. Patents are very important to HP and we could not protect HP's many fine inventions without inventors like you who take the time to prepare invention disclosures.

The decision has been made to pursue patent protection and prepare a patent application for your invention for filing in the US Patent and Trademark Office and potentially other patent offices around the world. The purpose of this correspondence is to inform you that we have arranged for Thomas W. Leffert of the law firm Fogg Slifer Polglaze Leffert & Jay to work with you to prepare the patent application. The attorney will be calling you shortly to set up a time to discuss your invention and the application. Please feel free to work with this non-HP attorney and be sure to mention any publication or disclosure related to your invention which has already occurred or which may occur before the application is filed. You may call Thomas W. Leffert at 612 312 2200.

Again, thank you very much for your efforts. If you should have any questions, please give me a call at Telnet 396-2880.

Sincerely,

Leslie G Murray  
Legal Department  
Intellectual Property Section

Hewlett-Packard Company  
Invoice No.: 10901

RECEIVED

## EXHIBIT C

MAR 08 2004

HP Legal Finance

LEFFERT JAY & POLGLAZE, PA  
150 South Fifth Street  
Suite 1900  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Phone 612-312-2200

Fax 612-312-2250

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Hewlett-Packard Company  
Legal Dept., M/S 1068  
P.O. Box 10301  
Palo Alto CA 94303-0890  
USA  
Financial Administrator

February 29, 2004  
LJP Docket No: 130-050US01  
Statement No: 10901-050US01  
Page 1

CONTROL PANEL SKINS  
REF. NO. 10018793-1 / LGM / UNITED STATES

		<u>Professional Services</u>	Hours	Amount
04/23/02	FMN	In paralegal services in review of new Request for filing; in preparation of file and working copies for attorney; and in updating records.		
04/23/02	DLH	In Docketing Administrator's time reviewing information received from annuity and client regarding new matter; in entering data in database for the new matter; in preparing file jacket; and in docketing all necessary dates.		
04/23/02	TWL	In reviewing the disclosure materials.		
04/26/02	DJP	In review of disclosure documents, in contacting inventor, in preparing for disclosure conference, and in disclosure conference with inventor. In initial search for potential art in application.		
04/27/02	DJP	In completion of art search, and in initial outlining of claims.		
04/30/02	DJP	In initial rough drafting of claims, and background. In figure outlining, and in rough drafting of detailed description.		
05/15/02	DJP	In continued preparation of application, including detail and claim revision.		
05/28/02	DJP	In further claim drafting.		
06/15/02	DJP	In continued drafting of detailed description.		
09/11/02	FMN	In paralegal services in updating records relating to transfer of file from Boise to California.		

Payment due upon receipt

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**Hewlett-Packard Company**

Invoice No.: 10901

03/03/03	DJP	In completion of draft application.	
03/03/03	TWL	In reviewing and editing the application draft.	
06/17/03	KAS	In Paralegal time for preparation of final draft of application; in drafting correspondence to client requesting authorization to file; in conferring with Attorney D. Polglaze; in transmittal of same to inventors.	
06/18/03	KAS	In Paralegal time for preparation of formal documents with final draft of application and formal drawings; in drafting correspondence to client regarding same; in conferring with Attorney D. Polglaze; and in transmittal of same to client to obtain inventor signature.	
07/09/03	DJP	In final review of formal drawings, IDS, and application, and in filing application.	
07/09/03	KAS	In Paralegal time for preparation of U.S. Utility application with a signed declaration and Information Disclosure Statement; in conferring with Attorney D. Polglaze; in preparing transmittal documents; in filing with the USPTO.	
07/10/03	KAS	In Paralegal time for drafting correspondence to client regarding filing of U.S. Utility application and preparation of electronic copies of application documents in Word and PDF format; in conferring with Attorney D. Polglaze; in forwarding same to client via email; and in update of file.	

**For Current Services Rendered****Expenses**

07/09/03 Express Mail

**Total Expenses****Advances**

06/18/03	Fee for Patent Drawings
06/25/03	Postage - Federal Express (06/18/03)
07/17/03	Document Retrieval Service

**Total Advances****Total Current Work****Payment due upon receipt**